Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 SSO-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 SSM-05 /070 W

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O 010935Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6670
USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE
WHITE HOUSE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS AMMAN 05675

WHITE HOUSE FOR NSC

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINT, US, JO, IS

SUBJECT: FORMER JERUSALEM MAYOR PROTESTS MONDALE VISIT

- TO EAST JERUSALEM; MEDIA REACTION
- 1. AMBASSADOR JUNE 30 RECEIVED TELEGRAM FROM RAWHI AL KHATIB, "EXILED MAYOR OF JERUSALEM" PROTESTING VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO EAST JERUSALEM AND REQUESTING THAT VISIT NOT BE MADE.
- 2. TELEGRAM CLAIMS VISIT "WILL BE INTERPRETED AS AN IMPLICIT RECOGNITION BY YOUR GOVERNMENT OF THE MAYORALITY OF MR. KOLLEK OVER OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, AND THIS IS SOMETHING DIVERGENT TO THE POSITION OF YOUR GOVERNMENT. IT WILL BE INTERPRETED ALSO AS AN ENCOURAGEMENT FOR THE AGGRESSORS ON THEIR ANNEXATION OF JERUSALEM TO THE STATE OF ISRAELI OCCUPATION. THIS MEASURE WILL HURT THE ARAB UNCLASSIFIED

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FEELINGS IN GENERAL AND THOSE OF THE RESIDENTS OF JERUSALEM AND THE OCCUPIED AREAS IN PARTICULAR; IT WILL ALSO BE A PAGE WHICH WE DON'T LIKE TO RECORD FOR YOUR GOVERNMENT WHICH CONTINUALLY CALLS FOR THE LIBERTY OF MAN AND THE RESISTANCE OF OCCUPATION AND WORKS FOR PEACE". MESSAGE CLOSES WITH REQUEST "IN THE NAME OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF JERUSALEM TO PREVENT THIS STEP".

- 3. REPORTS OF PROTEST TELEGRAM APPEARED IN JUNE 30 ENGLISH AND ARABIC PRESS, EVIDENTLY FROM COPIES SUPPLIED BY ALKHATIB.
- 4. ON OTHER HAND, JORDAN TIMES EDITORIAL JUNE 30 ON SUBJECT CHARACTERIZES "COMPROMISE" ON VISIT TO EAST JERUSALEM AS "NOT AS EMPHATIC AS WE WOULD HAVE LIKED, BUT IS NEVERTHELESS A WORTHY GESTURE ON THE PART OF THE UNITED STATES. THE FACT THAT MR. MONDALE WILL GO TO ARAB JERUSALEM AS A PRIVATE CITIZEN IS A SOLID IF SYMBOLIC MOVE ON HIS PART AND HIS GOVERNMENT'S AND IS IN KEEPING WITH PREVIOUS AMERICAN ACTIONS IN THIS SENSITIVE MATTER".
- 5. HOWEVER, EDITORIAL CONTINUES, "IT SEEMS INCONGRUOUS... FOR MR. MONDALE TO GO AS A PRIVATE CITIZEN, BUT ALSO TO INVITE MR. KOLLEK TO ACCOMPANY HIM". PAPER SUGGESTS THAT VICE PRESIDENT USE HIS VISIT AS A SYMBOL OF U.S. DESIRE TO BE IMPARTIAL MEDIATORS IN MIDDLE EAST BY HAVING "A PRIVATE CUP OF COFFEE WITH TWO OR THREE PALESTINIANS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF ARAB JERUSALEM ... THAT WOULD PROVIDE THE SPARKLE (TO THE VISIT) THAT IS NOW LACKING".SUDDARTH

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